

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-52 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11, and 21 are independent and are amended.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority

A certified copy of the priority document is being filed concurrently herewith. The Examiner is requested to acknowledge receipt of the certified copy in the next official communication.

Specification

The specification has been reviewed for possible minor errors, and none was detected.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because cutting protection members 157a, 167a are illustrated in FIGS. 6 and 8, respectively, but are not shown in FIG. 4, of which FIGS. 6 and 8 are cross-sectional views. Included with the attached Letter to the Official Draftsperson are proposed changes to FIG. 4 to insert the

cutting protection members 157a, 167a. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is, therefore, respectfully requested.

1-6, 9-16, 19-26, 29-30 } 1-30
7-8, 17-18, 27-28

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

31-52

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Office Action contends that the phrase "a second panel connected to the first panel" in claims 1, 11, and 21 is confusing. While not acquiescing to the rationale for this rejection, claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended in the manner requested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal is requested of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)/§ 103(a)

----- Claims 1-6, 9-16, 19-26, 29, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) -----
as being anticipated by, and claims 7, 8, 17, 18, 27, and 28 are rejected as under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over, Applicant's so-called "admitted prior art" (APA). In addition, claims 31-52 are rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,235,446 to Izumi et al. in view of the APA. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

At the outset, it is noted that the present application claims priority to KR P98-1883, filed May 25, 1998, whereas the effective U.S. filing date of Izumi et al. is September 24, 1998. To perfect Applicant's claim for priority, attached are certified copies of KR '883, together with a verified English language

translation thereof. Accordingly, Izumi et al. is not available as a reference against the present application under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 31-52 based on Izumi et al. is respectfully requested.

With respect to the rejections based on the APA, while not conceding the appropriateness of the rejections, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, independent claims 1 and 11 are amended to clarify that the second panel is coupled and spaced from the first panel and spaced apart from an edge of the first panel in the horizontal direction by a desired distance. Similarly, independent claim 21 is amended to clarify that the second ITO layer is coupled to and spaced from the first ITO layer and spaced apart from an edge of the first panel in the horizontal direction by a desired distance. It is respectfully submitted that the combinations of elements set forth in amended independent claims 1, 11, and 21 are not anticipated or made obvious by the prior art of record, including the APA and Izumi et al., which has been eliminated as a reference.

In FIGS. 1 and 2 of the present application, which refer to the background art, color filter panel 3 is shown to contain a common electrode 8 and is formed to overlap with gate pad terminal 57. FIG. 4 of the present application, which refers to an embodiment of the present invention, clearly shows a distance D separating both the gate pad 115 and the source pad 125 from the edge of the color filter panel 103 in a horizontal direction.

pad

In the present invention, a gate or data *pad* is spaced apart from the edge of an upper panel in the horizontal direction by a predetermined distance, thereby preventing the occurrence of electrical shorts caused by remaining conductive material after the upper panel is cut. Nowhere does the APA teach or suggest this key feature of the present invention or, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 11, and 21, a liquid crystal display device in which the second panel/second ITO layer is coupled and spaced from the first panel and spaced apart from an edge of the first panel by a desired distance. Referring to FIG. 1, a pair of the electrode layers formed on the upper panel is overlapped with the pad portion on the lower panel. Accordingly, the present invention is not anticipated by the APA. ①

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the APA fails to disclose or render obvious the presently claimed invention, and withdrawal of the rejections based thereon is respectfully requested. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 11, and 21 are in condition for allowance. Since dependent claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22-30 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 11, and 21, they are also allowable for at least the same reasons set forth in the preceding discussion, as well as for the additional limitations provided by these claims.

Conclusion

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

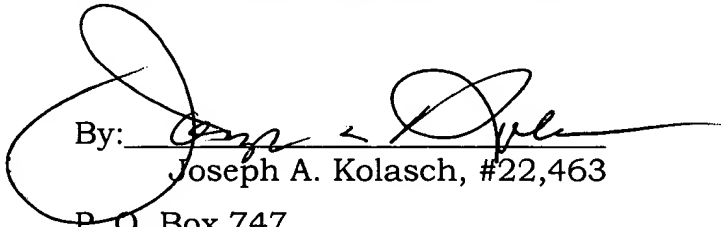
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If any issues remain, however, the Examiner is invited to telephone Sam Bhattacharya (Reg. No. 48,107) at 703-205-8000 in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, -----
and future replies to charge payment or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment
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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A liquid crystal display comprising:

a first panel including a common electrode extending in a horizontal direction along a surface of the first panel; and

a second panel [connected] coupled to the first panel and spaced from the first panel, the second panel including a pad extending in the horizontal direction along a surface of the second panel, the pad being spaced apart from the [common electrode] edge of the first panel in the horizontal direction by a desired distance.

11. (Amended) A liquid crystal display comprising:

a first panel including a common electrode extending in a horizontal direction along a surface of the first panel; and

a second panel [connected] coupled to the first panel and spaced from the first panel, the second panel including a pad terminal extending in the horizontal direction along a surface of the second panel, the pad terminal being spaced apart from the [common electrode] edge of the first panel in the horizontal direction by a desired distance.

21. (Amended) A liquid crystal display comprising:

a first panel including a first ITO layer extending in a horizontal direction along a surface of the first panel; and

a second panel [connected] coupled to the first panel and spaced from the first panel, the second panel including a second ITO layer extending in the horizontal direction along a surface of the second panel, the second ITO layer being spaced apart from the [first ITO layer] edge of the first panel in the horizontal direction by a desired distance.